(vi) the legal liability that the Post Office should accept for its services, in the context of the growing consumer protection trends, and consistent with the magnitude of its services, the conditions under which they are rendered and the relative tariffs.

II. to suggest modifications to the Act to meet the shortcomings brought out in the examination of the Act or otherwise and to serve all relevant purposes in view, and

III. to furnish an appropriate draft legislation incorporating those modifications, to the Government. The Committee is expected to submit its report by January, next year.

Telephone Connections in Nagpur

77. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending on the waiting list of telephone connections in Nagpur city as on the 1st July, 1992;

(b) the number of applications which are likely to be cleared by the end of 1992; and

(c) what is the target fixed for the year 1993?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 23461.
(b) 800.
(c) 3200 (During January 93 to March, 93)

Tenders Bids for Cellular and Car Telephones

78. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the procedure adopted in finalising tender bids for cellular phones and car telephones;

(b) whether it is a fact that there have been allegations of breach of tender sanctity in the selection of bidders; and

if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Tender bids for cellular phones were finalised in two stages. In the first stage the bids were technically and commercially evaluated giving due consideration to technical specifications, commercial and eligibility conditions as given in the tender. Out of the 30 bidders who participated in the 1st stage of tender, 14 bidders were short listed and financial bids issued to them.

In the second stage the financial bids from the short listed bidders were evaluated and 8 bidders were provisionally selected.

(b) and (b) The allegations in this regard have been made by one of the bidders who has filed civil writ petition in the High Court and the matter is *sub-judice*.

Pending Applications for Telephone Connections in Guwahati Region

79. SHRI MATANG SING: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of requests for telephone connections pending in the Guwahati region as on 30th September, 1992;

(b) by when the telephone connections are likely to be provided to those people;

(c) whether there is any proposal to